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Chapman

At the Tobacco Shop

Colica Pictorum

#5

Harage Lane

admitted April 1st 1819

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On the Tobacco Injection
in Colica Pictorum

In sitting a subject for an inaugural dissertation, I am well aware of the expectation on such occasions, of something novel. Yet the limits which is prescribed, in a majority of instances, to the experimental enquire of students of medicine, makes it hardly possible, for them, to add much light ~~to~~ subjects, which have occupied the research, of a number of most profound Physiologists and Pathologists. This, together with the danger in the application of experiments, derived, from analogy, to the human system, have deterred me, from the use, not of a new remedy; but ~~one~~ which has long been recommended in the treatment of Colica Pictorum. I mean the tobacco injection. Some facts which came under my notice, while resident at the lead mines, in Mississippi Territory, which have induced me to believe, that the strength of this injection, might be much increased, with great benefit in the management

- ment, of the most obstinate and painful, of the diseases of the alimentary canal

Before proceeding to an account of the ef-
fects of the fumigation, ^{as recommended} by writers in this disease,
so far, as I have employed them; I think it
not improper to enumerate its characteristics,
as well as the various symptoms, which mark
its course. At the same ^{time} dwelling to notice any
other cause, than the fumes of lead, at which
I have seen it, is could be ascribed to nothing
else.

The symptoms which distinguish it are most commonly; obstinate costiveness, a vomiting of a cold or puraceous bile, pains about the region of the stomach, from thence to each side with acipies violines; strong and convulsive spasms of the intestines and abdominal muscles, with a tendency to paralysis of the upper extremities.

The following are the symptoms, which commonly

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commonly attend it; and they are placed in the order in which they generally succeed each other. Pains in the pit of the stomach extending to the intestines, particularly round the navel, accompanied by slight sickness & the ~~erectness~~ of the stomach, thirst, anxiety, a frequent & ineffectual desire to evacuate the contents of the bowels and quick contracted pulse, but seldom exceeding a hundred in a minute. After a while these pains increase considerably in violence, the whole region of the belly is highly painful to the touch, the muscles of the abdomen are contracted into hard irregular knobs or lumps, the intestines themselves exhibit ~~all~~ the symptoms of violent spasm, inasmuch that a clyster can hardly be injected into them, from the powerful contractions of the sphincter ani, and there is a constant swelling, with a frequent vomiting of an acrid or puraceous matter but more particularly after taking food or

medicine

[Faint, illegible handwriting on lined paper]

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medicine. The late Doctor Rush mentioned as
having recourse, where fevers were discharged.
An instance of this kind, Smith tells in a negro
man, who was employed as a lead furnace.
In the two first days of the disease, he had
several evacuations from the bowels; after this
followed a most obstinate costiveness supervening,
which was not removed for several days.

In all the cases which have come
under my observation none of the remedies
recommended were had recourse to and ma-
ny of them without effect; for in every instance
nausea and vomiting prevailed to such an
extent, that food of every kind and medi-
cine, as soon as received into the stomach,
were uniformly rejected: except in one which
I do not think too foreign to have a place here.

A negroman the slave of a gentleman
living in the village of Mine à Breton, to whom
I was called, I found complaining of a most



[illegible]









The same rule, in the case of a married
 woman, to the very subject to this a series
 of small volumes as a means of my
 mental exercise. Then, I have written the
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1841
The first of the month of January 1841
I received from your father a letter
of the 21st inst. containing the news
of the death of your mother. I was
glad to hear that she had died
peacefully and without suffering.

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that is, like many other poisons, which are sometimes by accident or design taken into the stomach, are rendered innocuous by their quantity, causing them to be ejected, before they have time to exert their deleterious influence - And that the tobacco, may be particularly useful in those cases of 'Colic' produced by bad food, where I suppose the liquor of the vents may exert in a greater degree than in any other case

Now gentlemen permit me to give my unfeigned thanks for the acknowledgments I have received from your several houses, and conclude this unvarnished statement of facts, so fully sensible of its imperfections, that I have only to add, that nothing short of the necessity imposed and the release I have from the liberality and candour of the body to whose inspection it is to subject, could have forced me to have exposed it.



